

FIRST CLASS MAIL



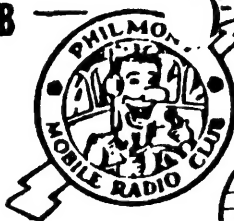
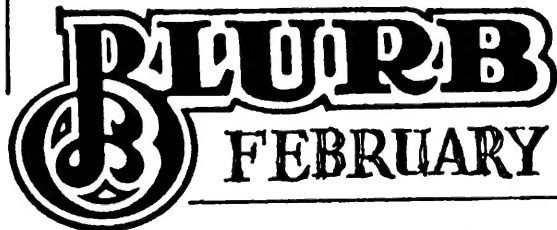
A Publication of
THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC.
2113 EDGEHILL DRIVE, FURLONG, PA 18925

VIRGINIA J. HARING
2113 EDGEHILL ROAD
FURLONG PA

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THE BLURB

PHILMONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB
W3RQZ • W3TKQ • W3QV



1992

YEH! OL BEN HERE...
CALLING FROM THE
GREAT
W3TKQ!



286th Birthday
OF
BEN FRANKLIN

is published monthly by, and for, the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, INC. whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs; requests should be sent to the Editor. BLURB subscriptions are available to non-members for \$10.00 addressed to the Treasurer. The club meets at 7:30 PM on the first non-holiday WEDNESDAY of every month at The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street, Philadelphia. Use the Winter Street (north side) entrance.

ALL VISITORS ARE WELCOME!

Amateur Radio License Examinations - the first non-holiday Thursday of every month
at The Franklin Institute Science Museum-
doors close at 6:30 PM-SHARP!

CLUB INFORMATION

24-Hour Information Number at W3TKQ -(215) 448-1139
Repeater frequencies: 147.03 (Bucks County input requires 131.8Hz PL)
444.80 MHz (186.2 Hz PL)
Simplex frequency: 147.51 MHz
Packet BBS frequency at W3TKQ-10: 145.05 MHz
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 88, Abington, PA 19001

STATIONS

W3QV - 147.03 MHz. Repeater - 8200 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3BBB
W3RQZ - 1176 Old York Road, Abington, PA - Trustee W3VVS
W3TKQ - The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Philadelphia, PA - Trustee W3PWG
ALL LICENSED AMATEURS ARE WELCOME TO OPERATE W3TKQ.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: N3FVI, Bill Popovic, 343 Lemonte Street, Philadelphia, PA 19128 (215) 487-9472
VICE PRESIDENT: N3GLH, Brad Swanson, 517 Cresheim Valley Road, Wynmoor, PA 19118 (215) 836-2475
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W3BBB (92); KC2HX (92); AK2I (93); W3IIM (A); K3KUD (A); N2RM (93); W3RM (A)

COMMITTEES

Archives:	W3IIN	Emerg. Coord.:	W3BBB	Repeater:	W3BBB
BLURB:	W3IIM	Membership:	W3IIN	Special Events:	KA3EBC
Budget /Audit:	W3IIN	Net Control:	KB3IV	VE Program:	ND3Q
Directory:	WB3KOJ	Program:	N3GLH	TVI:	WA3AUN
DX:	WA3AUN	Publicity:	-----	W3TKQ:	W3PWG
Education:	N3FTZ	Refreshments:	N3FVI	Welcome:	W3VVS

Special Liaison to The Franklin Institute Science Museum: AK2I

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N3DHI, WB3KOJ

Publisher/Typist: W3IIN

DEADLINE: To be assured of publication in the current month, all copy **MUST** be in the hands of the Editor at the Bored of Directors' Meeting!

NET SCHEDULE

SUNDAY	09:30	147.030	MHz FM	"SUNDAY MORNING 2 METER NET"
	10:00	28.993	MHz SSB	"10-ON-10 NET"
	10:20	3.993	MHz SSB	75 METER NET
TUESDAY	20:00	147.030	MHz FM	CW PRACTICE NET
LAST WED	20:00	147.030	MHz FM	W3TKQ OPERATORS' NET



APPLE BYTES

Don Gordon, WB3KOJ

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

02 Jay Sokolow - N3ISE
04 Eunice Bohlander (XYL W3VVS)
05 Michael L. Concordia - WB3KAC
Stuart Blake Tener - N3GWG
07 Lou Andrews (XYL W3IRS)
10 Sharon Masarsky - N3GLU
11 Jerry Russell - K3JR
14 Kay Russell (XYL K3JR)
16 Virginia Ziegler (XYL WB2SZF)
17 Samuel C. Smith - K3GBA
18 Mim Roeshman (XYL W3LKI)
23 Louise Newell (XYL K3JJO)
24 William A. Biermann - NZ3Z
28 Roger N. Cox - K3TYB

HELP PHIL -MONT

Are you planning to join ARRL or renew your current membership?

Remember: The ARRL is more than just a subscription!

Help PHIL-MONT by joining or renewing through the club.

Contact KB3IV for the details.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

LAST CALL... if you have any changes for the 1992 PMRC directory, or want to make any changes in your information (birthdays etc.) let me know NOW!

'92 Directories will be mailed with the April BLURB.

"DON'T TAILGATE—WAIT"—for the courtesy chime!

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
January 15, 1992

Mr. Claude H. Haring
Ms. Virginia J. Haring
Judge Of Elections
2113 Edgehill Drive
Furlong, Pennsylvania 18925

Dear Mr. And Ms. Haring:

Knowing of your interest in amateur "ham" radios, I thought you might appreciate this update on H.R. 73, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act of 1991.

Over the course of the past decade, the finite nature of the radio frequency spectrum has become more and more apparent. While airwaves were originally free to those who met application standards set by the Federal Communications Commission, new users like the \$66 billion cellular telephone industry and the \$34 billion radio and television broadcast industries gradually have been squeezing out the frequencies available to amateur radio operators. The latest infringement on amateur radio airwaves occurred when UPS was given prime frequencies for a new truck dispatching system.

The Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act would prevent any further loss of radio spectrum by the amateur radio community by ensuring that any frequencies which are taken away from them will be replaced. I am pleased to inform you that I have become a cosponsor of this bill.

Demands on the available radio spectrum are only going to increase as technology continues to advance and expand. Innovations like high definition television, digital audio broadcasting, and wireless access to computer databases will all require frequencies. I support H.R. 73 because it preserves the existing channels of America's 490,000 "hams". Protecting this network of volunteers means preserving a crucial element of emergency communications in this country. I believe passage of this important legislation is in everyone's best interest.

H.R. 73 has been referred to the House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and Finance, and should be considered in the near future. If you have any comments or questions on this or any other issue, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,



Peter H. Kostmayer

The PREZ SEZ

Bill Popovic, N3FVI



Thanks to all who helped with the special event. I hope this is the beginning of a new PMRC tradition. During the last directors' meeting, the attendance of the general meeting was discussed. Although we aren't doing badly (usually 25-35), I would like to see an increase. If you have any suggestions please contact me.

The general meeting program has historically been provided by the Club Vice President, but Brad has a new job that de-

mands more of his time. If you have a contact for a speaker, or a topic for a program, please help to improve the quality of the general meetings by arranging an interesting program. If you can help please contact Brad N3GLH or me.

The Club station, W3TKQ, is still in need of more operators and equipment. Contact Jake AK2I, or me, if you can contribute. Thanks to all who have already given so much.

License Classes at The Franklin Institute

Do you know anyone interested in obtaining an Amateur Radio Operator license? Could they use a little help preparing? Tell them to get ready and join the ten who have already signed up for the new code-free Novice/Technician training workshop to begin February 2, 1992.

The classes will be held on each Sunday from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM with the exception of March 8 & 15, and April 12 & 19. The location is The Franklin Institute Science Museum, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at 20th Street, Philadelphia. The workshop will be completed just prior to the regular monthly Amateur Radio license examination session that will be held at 6:00 PM Thursday, May 7, at The Institute.

In cooperation with The Franklin Institute, The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club will be offering classes for persons interested in qualifying for a FCC Amateur Radio license. Instructors will lead a 10-session

lesson plan to cover a code-free Novice/Technician course. The workshop will be based on the ARRL publication 'Now You're Talking!'

It isn't difficult to teach an entry-level course, it just takes some enthusiasm and a willingness to put in a small effort. The club needs your help in this activity to produce, not merely Amateur Radio licensees but, active Amateur Radio operators. If you can assist in teaching just one or two classes a course, it would not only help the Phil-Mont program to be a success, more importantly it would expose the beginners to the wealth of skills and experience the club possesses in its members.

If you can volunteer two hours on a Sunday between February and May, to help with a class, please contact Ted Lada, N3FTZ, at (215) 487-3017 before 9 PM, or leave a message on the club's 24 hour information line at The Institute (215) 448-1139.

LOOKAHEAD

Feb 5 **General Meeting Program:**
*The history and evolution of
cellular technology,*
by Mark Thomas, former manager—
Motorola service center

Feb 6 License Examinations

Feb 12 Directors' Meeting at
N3FTC & WU3I's

Mar 4 **General Meeting**
Mar 5 License Examinations

Mar 18 Directors' Meeting at
N3GLU & KB3IV's

HAMFESTS

Feb 29 LEBANON, PA
Appalachian ARG

Mar 1 DOVER, PA
York Springfest

Mar 7 EGG HARBOR CITY, NJ
Shore Points ARC

Mar 14 FLEMINGTON, NJ

Mar 22 WEST WINDSOR, NJ
DVRA

Mar 28-29 TIMONIUM, MD
Baltimore ARC

Apr 12 NEW CASTLE, DE
Pen-Del ARC

Apr 24-26 DAYTON, OH
Hamvention

May 17 WRIGHTSTOWN, PA
Warminster ARC

Jul 26 TIMONIUM, MD
BRATS

V.E. TEST LOCATIONS

Confirm all information, in advance, with the contact person. Licensed applicants must bring their original license and one photocopy of it. All applicants, including children, must present positive ID. Also bring the original of any Certificate of Successful Completion needed to prove current status. The ARRL VEC's 1992 test fee is \$5.40; there is no charge for a Novice test.

Monthly, 1st Thursday
FRANKLIN INSTITUTE
Dusty Rhoads, ND3Q
(215) 482-0386
(215) 879-0505

LEVITTOWN
Dave Heller, K3TX
(215) 946-1040
(215) 736-3333

Feb 15 **BRYN MAWR**
Bob Haase, W3SA
(215) 293-1919

Monthly, 1st Monday
POTTSTOWN
Warren Erdman K3ZXQ
(215) 679-5764

Monthly, 2nd Monday
TELFORD
Warren Erdman K3ZXQ
(215) 679-5764

Monthly, 3rd Wednesday
RICHBORO
Dave Munson, NM3K
(215) 788-7515

Monthly, 3rd Thursday
BELLMAWR, NJ
Bill Helmatag
(609) 546-7710

Monthly, Last Saturday
UNIVERSITY OF PA
Jeff DePolo, WN3A
(215) 898-8538
(215) 386-7199

Mar 4 **WARMINSTER**
Tom Michaud, WA3TQJ
(215) 343-3494

Double Bazooka

*Antenna information from Rod Heminger
W3YEA.*

The antenna is made with coax in the center section of the antenna and wire for the ends. The flat top coax length on each side of the feed point is 162.5/freq. The wire length on each end is 67.5/freq. The total length overall is 460/freq. Dimensions are in feet.

52 ohm coax is used to feed the antenna. The connection is to the shield on each side of center. The center section is 52 ohm coax.



The center conductor of the flat top coax is not broken in the middle. The coax [feedline] connects to the split shields on each side. The coax is shorted at the ends when it makes the transition to wire.

Dimensions for a 30 meter antenna:
Coax flat top 16.08' + 16.08' = total 32' 2"
Wire ends 6.78' each side = 6' 9 3/8"

Dimensions for 40 meter antenna:
Coax flat top 22.72' + 22.72' total 45.44' = 45' 5 1/4"
Wire ends 9.44' each side = 9' 5 1/4"

Dimensions for 80 meter antenna:
Coax flat top 43.91' + 43.91' = 87.82' = 87' 10"
Wire ends 18.24' = 18' 3" each side.

Notes:

I used RG8X for the flat top coax and RG8U for the feed line. I suggest that the wire ends be extended about 3 feet and folded back; this will allow adjustment of the length for tuning.

The gain is something like 2 db. The bandwidth is 300 kc w/not over 1.2:1 VSWR. When installed [as an] inverted vee the antenna appears to be short and must be extended about 15" on each side to achieve 1:1 VSWR on the 10 MHz band.

I used a ceramic insulator with a hanger loop for the center connections. I used poly rope to the loops on each end, no insulators.

The above is a collection of information I have gotten from packet and talking to several people who have used the antenna successfully.

Wally Newell, K3JJO

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A BROADCAST ENGINEER?

The Certification Committee of the Society of Broadcast Engineers (SBE) has approved the recognition of amateur radio activities for certification credits. Persons holding a valid Amateur Radio **Extra Class** license, who meet the service requirement for employment in the broadcast or broadcast related industries, will be awarded Broadcast Technologist Certification upon application. This is in recognition that the current licensing requirements for this level of the Amateur Radio Service demonstrate technical proficiency on par with the old FCC Second and First Class license examination. Certification information and application forms may be obtained from the SBE national office in Indianapolis at 317-253-1640. (From a September 13, 1991 SBE news release)

DLARC

YOU CAN CRUISE ON ONE OF THE FEW SURVIVING WW-II LIBERTY SHIPS!

Memorial Day Weekend—Saturday, May 23, 1992

The JOHN W. BROWN will cruise the Delaware River from Penn's Landing!

Labor Day Weekend—Sunday, September 6, 1992

Marking the 50th anniversary of the launching of the JOHN W. BROWN, the ship will again cruise the beautiful Chesapeake Bay.

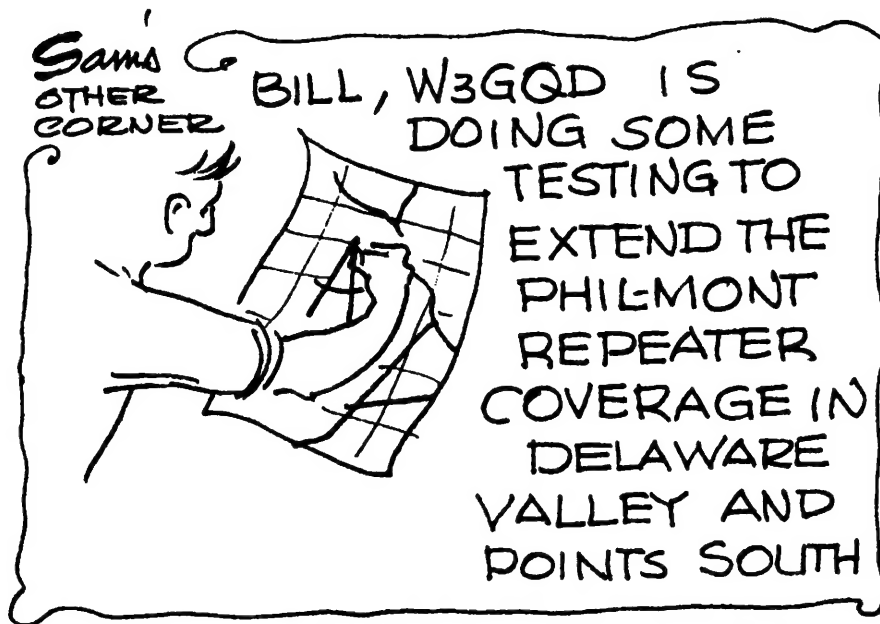
Features:

- A welcoming continental breakfast, lunch and beverages, afternoon snacks.
- Tours of the ship (see the continuing progress in the all-volunteer restoration).
- See original radio room equipment.
- Dancing to the 40s music of the wonderful Ed. Williams Big Band with vocals by Delores King Williams
- A wreath laying ceremony.
- WW II aircraft fly-bys, and much more!

Donation for each guest: \$100 (\$70 are tax deductible)

For more information, write to:

PROJECT LIBERTY SHIP, P.O. Box 8, Long Green, MD 21092



MINUTES

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

Steve Hoch, WU3I, Secretary



N3FVI called to order the **506th** general meeting of the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club at 8:04 pm on January 8th.

KB3IV reported that the state of the treasury was at ZERO, however after adding last year's carried-over balance (claiming that figure as income—and that was why he was re-elected) and deducting the monthly expenses, the club still proved liquid.

W3IIN announced that she was still looking for any items that were published about the OCTOBER 23 dedication.

W3IIM said that the new club roster would be in the April *BLURB*, and there was a March deadline for any updated information.

N3FVI announced that the classes headed-up by Ted, N3FTZ, are to start February 2nd at The Franklin Institute, and there are 10 people signed-up at this time.

W3IIN stated that Jim Parker, N3KGH, was voted-in at the December Board meeting, bringing the total for 1991 to 13. Also, there were two applications for consideration for the January Directors' meeting.

KB3IV said that he had a full roster for the net controls on 2M, however the 10M net controls could use some help, but the 75M schedule seems to be carved-in-stone, with no openings in sight until???

Jake, AK2I, gave a combined VE/W3TKQ report in the absence of ND3Q. Jake, having been keeping records on the successes of the VE program, reported on

the influx of new Technician-Plus licensees since the inception of CODE-FREE licensing. NS3Z and WU3I reported that many of these new hams return to take the code, and advance even further.

On the subject of the WALL, Jake had heard that the wall was no longer forthcoming, prompting a trip to Dr. Jim Powell, C.E.O. of the Franklin Institute. Dr. Powell had to be brought up-to-date on the history of the wall and its suggested demise. After some conversation and digging into the facts, Dr. Powell stated he had to speak to Bill Booth, who was away until January 15.

Jake announced that he has 25 volunteer operators, but still needs 20 or so more regular operators; Saturday and Sunday are still the toughest to fill.

Jake also announced that there was a "Special Event Station" being operated at W3TKQ on the weekend of 1/17-1/19, from 7pm (0000Z) Friday until Noon (1700Z) Sunday, in celebration of the 286th birthday of Ben Franklin. W3TKQ will be operated around the clock, [well, we tried-Ed] and volunteers are needed.

Attendance was 25 members and 4 visitors who were: Lloyd Price, N2KPC; Bob Westlake, WA1UAY; Conway Yee, N2JWQ; and Roberto Ellison. The 50-50 was won by Perry Blum, N3AXJ.

The Program, at 8:40, was a videotape from the archives, and a "reel classic," "PHIL-MONT DOES DAYTON" with a cast of thousands (well maybe a few).

MINUTES

JANUARY DIRECTORS' MEETING

Steve Hoch, WU3I, Secretary

N3FVI opened the meeting promptly [?] at 8:15 pm (0115Z) at W3TKQ. (Bill says he can't stop his 2 year old from running the meeting, so off to 'TKQ.) Attending were KB3IV, W3's RM, BBB, IIM, IIN, K3KUD, WU3I, N2RM and N3's GWG & FVI.

KB3IV gave the treasurer's report. Dues are doing well: 102 members paid; 42 still outstanding. The treasury had a healthy balance even after the monthly expenses.

W3IIM stated proudly that the blurb still had money in its budget. The February BLURB will not be mailed until 2/28, so don't look for it too early. Also W3's IIM & IIN will not be attending the February mid-month (boy will they miss the goodies, butter cake Jack). [oops] There was some discussion on the sending of complimentary and 'exchange' BLURBS; some were reaffirmed, and some dropped.

W3IIN presented the applications of two new prospective members: John B. Kane AB3C, and Ben Persofsky KA3WWK. Both were voted-in as members. W3RM made the motion, seconded by WU3I.

W3IIN reported that the AUDIT COMMITTEE, (what a group) [two people] had met and reviewed the books, and recommend their approval. (WB3KOJ, although not attending, stated that the committee does not know how to do a JEWISH AUDIT.)

W3IIN reported that the Archives committee has received no new [old] items, but is always receptive to new [old] material.

W3IIM reported that the directory will be mailed with the April BLURB. That means a March Mid-month deadline.

N3FVI reported that the classes for February have 10 people signed up, and that the Drake UV3 has been sold to W3PWG.

OLD BUSINESS

The subject of airing EASTLINK was brought up, and was tabled until the repeater committee meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

AK2I (conspicuous by his absence) is trying to put together a committed schedule for operators at W3TKQ. Those interested should contact Jake "yesterday." [See Jake's article in this issue.—Ed]

N3FVI is reviewing committees to possibly add or replace members where they could serve the club the best. There was discussion for the need for a Program Schedule for the year, and possibly a Program Committee to assist the V.P.

K3KUD reported that he is a VOLUNTEER CONSULTING ENGINEER (VCE) in a program newly instituted by the ARRL, working with legal people in assisting hams with getting the permits and approvals for their towers. (THREECHEERS FOR BOB.) The meeting was adjourned at 9:15.

LICENSE CLASSES SCHEDULED

Listed below are all the classes known to us at presstime.

Center City	Novice & Tech	Begins February 2	N3FTZ	(215) 448-1139
Cheltenham	Novice	Begins February 27	Delmont RC	
Lansdale	Novice	Begins March	KD3QR	(215) 584-5031
Newtown Sq	All	Began January 21	Walt Faust	(215) 622-2200
Radnor	Novice & Tech	Began January 11	W4VRP	(215) 525-6583
Souderton	No-Code Tech	Begins January 30	NX3S	
Warminster	Nov/Tech/Gen	Begins March 3	K3EBZ (after 7pm)	(215) 672-5487

Class coordinators are encouraged to publish information well in advance of their starting dates to give other clubs the opportunity to spread the word via their newsletters.

FCC's Effort to Make Room for Phones of the Future Draws Conflicting Advice

WASHINGTON—The U.S. is about to enter a brave new world of mobile communications, where people, not places, get phone numbers; consumers get tiny telephones; and communications companies get richer.

But first, the Federal Communications Commission must decide who gets a chance to make money, by assigning the radio frequencies needed to operate the new telephones. Recently the agency called a rare all-day hearing to clear up the issues and got a storm of conflicting advice instead.

"At the FCC, everyone engages in catclysmic-scenario lobbying," complained FCC Chairman Alfred Sikes, who then called his chief engineer to interrogate one of the witnesses whose testimony he doubted.

Personal Systems

At issue is a new technology called personal communications services—a kind of mini-cellular telephone system. With the new technology, companies would install communications cells, serving an area as small as an office building. Everyone within the building then could use tiny, cordless phones—smaller and cheaper than cellular models because they require less power—to talk, no matter where they walked. The new tiny telephones would also be able to hook up to cellular systems and even to Luddites who use traditional telephones.

With personal communications systems, offices wouldn't have to be rewired for telephones during moves within the building. Personal computers, using the same technology, wouldn't need to be wired together to act as a local network. Ultimately, when the technology becomes commonplace, people could be issued telephone numbers the way they are issued Social Security numbers.

"Our objective is to say you need not be connected with a wall and share a telephone," says Craig McCaw, chairman of McCaw Cellular Communications Inc., which wants to get into the tiny telephone

business. "You can be the center of your own universe."

The FCC thinks that's great, and has promised to allocate enough radio frequencies to support the technology, starting next year. But to whom?

In the past, the agency has been of two minds regarding new technology. When cable television was the hot new technology, it blocked broadcasters from the field, figuring they would stomp on it like dinosaurs. When it came to cellular telephones, though, the agency changed course. The FCC gave the troglodytes—the local phone companies—cellular licenses because it figured the old-timers had the strength to push the new technology.

Asking Too Much?

Yesterday, the newest dinosaurs—existing cellular companies—said they should get a piece of the newest technology. John DeFeo, president of US West Inc.'s cellular telephone business, said that phone companies will have the capital, experience and sales force to make a success of personal communications.

But one FCC commissioner, Andrew Barrett, suggested that cellular phone companies were asking for too much and should use their existing frequencies more efficiently. "We may be able to allocate [radio frequencies] to people not in the business," he said in an interview. "That may be better for our economic goals."

Any new assignment of frequencies would come from those already used by police, utilities and pipeline companies to operate microwave communications networks. Captain B.E. Wenke of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said at the hearing that he opposed even sharing radio frequencies with personal communications companies. "We can't tolerate any interference" with police communications, he said.

The Wall Street Journal

By the Year 2000...

Federally operated radio-navigation systems were discussed at the recent Federal Radio-navigation Conference. The status of each is:

- **GPS**—Deployment of the Global Positioning System is on schedule, and the system will be fully operational worldwide in 1993 with 21 satellites and three spares in orbit 11,000 miles above the Earth.

- **Loran**—This popular system, serving the continental United States and Alaska, will be continued into the next century. Loran service in Hawaii will be discontinued by the end of this year, and the policy of transferring operation of overseas Loran stations to the host country will continue. The Department of Defense (DOD) will cease using Loran in late 1994. The Coast Guard plans no further expansion of Loran.

- **Radiobeacons**—The Coast Guard will continue to support its system of radiobeacons around the country well into the next century.

- **Transit**—This DOD operated satellite system will cease operation in December 1996. GPS will be the designated DOD satellite system for the mid-1990s and into the next century.

- **Omega**—Since it is currently the sole means of air navigation in some oceanic areas, Omega will be continued into the next century, and is expected to undergo equipment and antennae replacement in the mid-1990s. DOD will cease using Omega in 1994.

BOAT/U.S.

CLUB MEMBER DESIGNATED VOLUNTEER CONSULTING ENGINEER

Having been appointed an ARRL Volunteer Consulting Engineer (VCE), Bob Schmilewske, **K3KUD**, is gathering material relating to the structural/construction specifications of the manufacturers of towers/antennas designed for ham radio use.

"I'm not interested in radiation patterns or propagation data, but only the structural and construction data which they supply," he said. "This will include wind load data, stressed area information, suggested guying information, foundation/base information, and vertical load data."

"I need copies of all, or any, of the above data for inclusion in a data base for antenna structures, and will be happy to make copies of those items of the above which I can use, and will return the originals, or I will be glad to pay for copies of useful data."

If you have any question, you may call him at 362-6464 or "FOAMING." Please note that the manufacturer's name must appear on any and all data furnished.

The material will be used only for the purpose of assisting hams with problems involving antenna installations, where local municipalities are in conflict, and where ARRL Volunteer Counsels (VCs) are first involved

[Help your fellow hams by helping our very own "foaming" VCE!—Ed]

CLUB INFORMATION

24 Hour Information Number at W3TKQ
(215) 448-1139

Obscure law orders car pools by 1996

By Patricia Wandling Courier Times Business Writer
BENSALEM

By 1996, people who work for midsize and large companies may be forced to leave the driving to someone else.

A little-known amendment to the U.S. Clean Air Act, adopted in November 1990, requires companies with more than 100 workers to reduce the number of employees who drive to work. It is likely car or van pools will grow as the federal and state governments join to improve air quality.

The federal guidelines include suggestions for employer-based transportation plans or programs to provide high-occupancy, shared-ride services. Once in effect, the state will enforce the law.

In comments to members of the Lower Bucks County Chamber of Commerce, Robert Moore, executive director of the Bucks County Planning Commission, confirmed that by 1996, midsize to large companies must have a plan to cut the number of employees traveling to work by car by as much as 25 percent.

The federal law is aimed at regions, such as the greater Philadelphia area, where air quality is poor. From now on, Moore said, highway and clean-air problems must be addressed together.

If the region's air quality does not meet federal standards, Moore said, no extra capacity can be built into the highway system. So one way to reduce air pollution is to increase the occupancy of vehicles.

"The No. 1 source of air pollution comes from motor vehicles and the worst offender is the single occupant," agreed Sara Nichols, of the Philadelphia-based Clean Air Council. Nichols said states must have a plan to show the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency it is complying with the Clean Air Act. Non-compliance could mean the loss of federal highway dollars for states.

She also said, "If the companies do not comply, the state is not in compliance. The state, then, has an interest in penalizing the business."

Companies could set up car pools, or provide a van for employees. "They will have to figure it out," said Nichols.

Cars delete astronomical amounts of resources," she said. "The fact of the matter is, the auto is to us what lead was (as a piping contaminate) to the Roman Empire, or heroin to the heroin addict."

Moore told chamber members traffic congestion continues to be a problem in Bucks, and specifically more of a problem in densely populated Lower Bucks. But, he said, "We are not in dire straits at this time." In a way, the economic slowdown has given the county a breather, Moore said. Once the recession ends, however, housing development will escalate, and roads and highways will demand attention, he said. "This period presents us with an opportunity to plan for that growth and see that it occurs in an efficient way," Moore said.

The March BLURB will be mailed one week later than usual.

Net control stations for the first Sunday in March are
NA2E (2m) and W3PWG (75m).

IS THE CODE TOO TOUGH?

FIVE YEAR OLD PRE-SCHOOL GIRL
BECOMES HAM

In April of 1991 Veronica Harrington of Long Beach, California passed the Amateur Radio Novice Class Examination, and became a licensed Amateur Radio Operator, KC6TQR. Later she passed the Technician Class Examination. KC6TQR is 5-1/2 years old, and entered First Grade in the Long Beach school system in September 1991. She may be the youngest person in the world to become a licensed radio operator.

Veronica's parents, Ann and Curt are HAMS. Her Dad is a patent attorney. Ronica observed her father operating his Amateur Radio equipment, and told him she wanted to talk to other people using his radio station. Her father said she could do that as soon as she obtained her license. Ronica studied the complete bank of about 350 Novice Class examination questions using the family computer as a learning aid. She reports that the code was easy but the theory was hard. She is now studying for the General Class exam. She and her father are also learning the Japanese language.

The above was taken from a tape of a four minute segment on the "Home" show on TV Channel 6 (Philadelphia), August 14, 1991. It is available for anyone who wants to see it. It might be helpful in neutralizing concerns of potential HAMS who believe the code is too difficult, or the technical material is too incomprehensible for them to pass the exams.

The tape was shown at the first session of the new Bellmawr (NJ) Novice class on September 24. Although the class welcomes those who wish to earn the no-code tech license—and many had enrolled to get the no-code license—out of 56 students, only 1 is not trying the code. Hearing KC6TQR say that the code was easy (the theory was hard for her) may have had something to do with so many being willing to learn the code.

WA3SCW ARRL MDC Bulletin Manager via DLARC

How About Jet Noise, for People Who Don't Live Near an Airport?

TOKYO - Japan's largest cable-radio network is always sounding out new ideas. The challenge is to match such successes as 24-hour yodeling. At latest count, Osaka Yusen Broadcasting Corp. has managed to fill 320 of its 440 channels by offering such oddball options. They have three "alibi" stations that play nothing but fake background noise. Users can make phone calls from subscribing bars (or other compromising locales) and sound as if they're calling from a game parlor, bowling alley or even a phone booth on the street. Cable radio is making inroads in the U.S., but has a long way to go before it catches up with Yusen.

For example, *Digital Cable Radio Associates, Hatboro, Pa.*, has networks of as many as 30 channels each in 16 U.S. cities. Digital Cable claims more than 10,000 subscribers, who sign up for classical, jazz and rock radio free of announcers or static. Yusen does all that and more, for more than one million Japanese homes and businesses. Besides pop, classical and jazz, there are channels for the all-day sound of steam locomotives, nonstop cicadas and frogs, and continuous military music from World War II.

This much choice costs. Digital Audio runs about \$10 a month. Yusen charges 30,000 yen (\$230) up front, plus a monthly service fee of 6,000 yen (\$46). The high-priced network offers not just Abba, but abacus lessons. There's heavy metal, and Buddhist chanting. If Yusen listeners tire of Mozart, there's a channel full of the folk songs of North Korea. If they really tire, there's the sheep-counting channel, with a mellow male voice slowly counting up to 1,001. Other "drowsing channels" include

81ST MONTHLY VE SESSION STATISTICS JANUARY

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George Starks, AA2FU; Niel Leone, W3FZR; Steve Hoch, WU3I;
Joel Klienguenther, KA3SWU; Jonathan Verlin, KA3VVU; Bob Forrester, NS3Z

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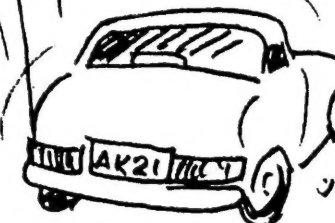
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THE W 3 T K Q

REPORT

by
Jake Kovalchek,
AK2I

It's A Big Job, and *everybody* has to do it!

Since the official reopening of W3TKQ, on October 23, 1991, I asked almost weekly for additional volunteer operators, in order to maintain our end of the bargain with The Franklin Institute. That agreement was to demonstrate the exhibit during the hours the Institute was open, if at all possible. Not really a burdensome request... at the time.

Now, however, it appears that I will be forced to search the talents of other clubs in order to get the required number of operators needed. I estimate, with the experience of the last few months, that we will need at least twenty (20) additional operators. I do not think it will be difficult to get them at all, not once they get the real story, and I invite them, through this column, which has wide coverage through club exchange newsletter programs, to contact me for the necessary details and application forms.

I especially invite the young men and women of other clubs, in and around the area, to join us as Volunteer Operators at W3TKQ in The Franklin Institute. Teenagers, and even those who might be ten years of age or older, as long as they can come down, with a parent or guardian, for a few hours, to join us as Official Operators of the finest Amateur Radio Station "this side of the Mississippi." You're invited to come for a day to look us over, test operate, stay for a few hours, and get a feel for your particular thing in amateur radio. Perhaps we might be able to spark your interest enough to cause you to join us on the spot. "We're in Touch... So You Be in Touch."

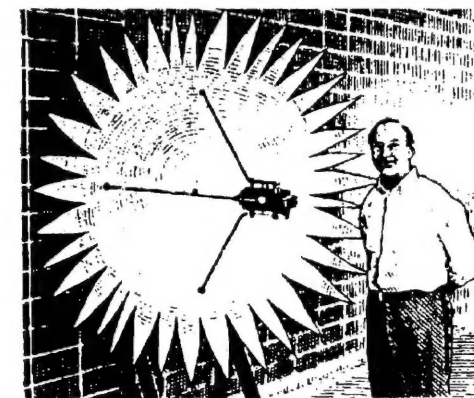
Call me at 609-428-5924 or 215-448-1139, or drop me a postcard at:

AK2I, 1228 Heartwood Drive, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003.

You'll be surprised at the response you get!

Cutting Edge Sharpens Antenna Performance

Backyards may one day grow a new kind of flower. Researchers at the Georgia Institute of Technology have found that television and other dish antennas work better if their edges are cut like flower petals. By gradually reducing the electrical field at the edge of the dish, the petals provide better reception and transmission. Scientists have tried to reduce uncontrolled scattering of energy in parabolic antennas by rolling the



Edward Joy and floral antenna

outside edges, placing absorbent materials around the rim or adding triangular serrations. Nothing has worked as well for the money as flower petals, says Edward Joy, professor of electrical engineering at Georgia Tech.

"The rolled edge works better, but it's very costly," says Dean Mensa, senior technologist at the Navy's Pacific Missile Test Center in Point Mugu, Calif. "The flower petal is a good compromise between cost and performance."

Flowery antennas haven't yet begun to spring up in backyards, but Dr. Joy predicts they will as more communications satellites go into orbit. Ground-based antennas will have to be better designed, to receive only the signals meant for them, he says.

The floral antenna was an accident, Dr. Joy says. "We told the computer how much we'd like the electric fields to fall off, and out popped a flower petal."

The Wall Street Journal

philosophical talks; and there's a recording of a pregnant woman's heartbeat—"Babies listen to it in the belly," says a Yusen spokesman, adding that "it makes you feel relaxed." For waking, there's "Rooster Calls and Bells Ringing." Yusen believes the variety attracts home users, adding to its steady growth from an initial 12 music channels in 1977. Programmers suggest many of the concepts for new channels, but Yusen also counts on the public for ideas.

The alibi channels were proposed by the owner of a "Love Hotel," a sort of rent-by-the-hour fantasy hotel. They'll need many more ideas. Yusen's ultimate goal is 2,000 channels in the next 10 years.

The Wall Street Journal

Nostalgia:

*The ability to remember the good,
and ignore the rest.*

NEWSLETTERS EXCHANGED

Baltimore Radio Amateur Television Society (BRATS)
Delaware-Lehigh Amateur Radio Club (DLARC)
Delmont Radio Club
Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club (MARC)
Mobile Sixers Radio Club
Penn Wireless Association
R F Hill Amateur Radio Club
Reading Radio Club
Sussex Amateur Radio Ass'n (SARA) (Delaware)
Tompkins County Amateur Radio Club (New York)
Warminster Amateur Radio Club
Worldradio Magazine

Exchanges with additional parties are welcomed.

1992

FEBRUARY

1992

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<i>The ability to speak distinguishes us from the lower animals. What we say frequently doesn't.</i>		<div>W3TKQ's scheduled operators</div> <p>W3TKQ OPERATORS, who are unable to be at the station on their scheduled day, as shown in the upper right corner, should make arrangements to "swap" with another operator, or contact AK2I, 24 hrs in advance, to arrange a substitute.</p>	1 WA3AAL N3GMH AG2H WA3MRP NS3Y
2 AA2FU WB3JUA KT3Z 2M NCS AK2I 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3PWG <i>Ground Hog Day</i>	3 W3RM NS3Z <i>Felix Mendelssohn 1809</i>	4 N3ALW W2GMA WT3P CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM	5 WA3AUN N3AXJ K3PHC W3PWG K3VXU GENERAL MEETING at The Franklin Institute Refreshments at 7:00 PM Meeting starts after 7:30	6 N3FVI AK2I NS3Z LICENSE EXAMS at The Franklin Institute Registration begins at 6:00 Doors close at 6:30 PM <i>sharp!</i>	7 WU3I W3LKI K3TEF <i>Eubie Blake 1883</i>	8 WA3AAL N3GMH AG2H WA3MRP NS3Y
9 AA2FU WB3JUA KT3Z 2M NCS N3FTY 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3AOA	10 W3RM NS3Z	11 N3ALW W2GMA WT3P CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM <i>Thomas Edison 1847</i>	12 W3AUN N3AXJ K3PHC W3PWG K3VXU DIRECTORS' MEETING at N3FTC & WU3I's <i>Abraham Lincoln 1809</i>	13 N3FVI AK2I NS3Z	14 WU3I W3LKI K3TEF <i>St. Valentine's Day</i>	15 AG2H K3JJO WA3MRP NS3Y W3YLT
16 AA2FU WB3JUA KT3Z 2M NCS K3JJO 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS W3RCE	17 W3RM NS3Z <i>Presidents' Day</i>	18 N3ALW W2GMA WT3P CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM	19 WA3AUN N3AXJ K3PHC W3PWG K3VXU <i>Copernicus 1473</i>	20 N3FVI AK2I NS3Z	21 WU3I W3LKI K3TEF	22 WA3AAL N3GMH AG2H WA3MRP NS3Y <i>George Washington 1732</i>
23 AA2FU WB3JUA KT3Z 2M NCS NS3Y 10M NCS ANYONE 75M NCS AK2I <i>G.F. Handel 1685</i>	24 W3RM NS3Z	25 N3ALW W2GMA WT3P CODE PRACTICE NET at 8 PM	26 WA3AUN N3AXJ K3PHC W3PWG K3VXU 'TKQ OPERATOR's NET at 8 PM	27 N3FVI AK2I NS3Z <i>U.N. Victory in Gulf 1991</i>	28 WU3I W3LKI K3TEF <i>BLURB Mailing</i>	29 WA3AAL N3GMH AG2H WA3MRP NS3Y <i>Leap Day</i> <i>Camden Aquarium Opens</i>



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